

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of The Study

Language is a human basic need. It is used to communicate with the others. When people communicate to each other, they have their own way of communication. Each communication was affected by each culture. Every culture has different way in communication including in the way how they express gratitude. Gratitude, thankfulness, gratefulness, or appreciation is a feeling or attitude in acknowledgment of a benefit that one has received or will receive. The experience of gratitude has historically been a focus of several world religions.

Indonesians have many different ways in expressing gratitude in particular in acknowledgement. The influences of Indonesian culture in saying gratitude can be seen in the under graduate thesis English acknowledgement.

An *acknowledgement* is a statement or action that recognizes person who helped the researcher. Acknowledgements constitute one of the ways to express gratitude in academic domain. The following examples give illustration. The first sample is taken from an acknowledgement written in English thesis.

*... The researcher is fully aware of other people's help and guidance. Therefore, on this opportunity, she would like to express her gratitude and appreciation to:*

*1. Drs. Sofyan Anif, M.Si, as Dean of the School of Teacher Training and Education of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta,*

2. *Tities Setyabudi, S.Si, M.Hum., Head of English department, who has permitted her to write the research paper,*

...

The following is another example of gratitude in acknowledgement of thesis written in English.

*...On this very special occasion, she wishes to express her gratitude to those who helped her completing this research paper.*

1. *Drs. Sofyan Anif, M.Si, the Dean of School of Teacher Training and Education of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta,*

2. *Titis Setyabudi, S.S. M.Hum, the Head of English Education Department,*

....

Based on the both samples above, there are different ways in expressing gratitude. The first sample uses words “...to express her gratitude and appreciation to...” while the second sample only uses words “...express her gratitude to those who helped her...”. There is different style and way in both authors’ words but both of them have the same intention in revealing gratitude. Beside that there is other difference in their way in writing gratitude to Mr.Titis Setybudi. The first sample writes “*Tities Setyabudi, S.Si, M.Hum., Head of English department, who has permitted her to write the research paper,*” while the second sample only writes “*Titis Setyabudi, S.S. M.Hum, the Head of English Education Department,*” based on this sample, the first author gave the reason of expressing gratitude, while the second author did not.

There are some researchers who have done the research about acknowledgement and gratitude, such as Kashdan, Uswatte and Julian (2005), Johansen (2008), Farnia and Suleiman (2009), Mingwey and Yajun (2010), Pishghadam and Zarei (2011), Croxford (2011), Yang (2012), Farashaiyan and Hua (2012), Sood and Gupta (2012), Afip (2013) however most of them

analyzed only English gratitude or compare English and their own mother tongue. No one has studied and compared English and Indonesian acknowledgement.

Based on the phenomena above the researcher is interested in conducting analysis entitled A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON INDONESIAN AND ENGLISH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT USED IN UNDERGRADUATE THESES.

## **B. Scope of The Study**

This study limits the focus of investigation on the generic structure of gratitude acknowledgement used in Indonesian and English undergraduate thesis.

In conducting the research, the writers limits the problems are follows:

1. The object of the research are only the thesis acknowledgement which made by the alumnus of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.
2. The objects of the research are English acknowledgements and Indonesian acknowledgements in under graduate thesis.
3. The theory which writer uses in this research is theory of Discourse Analysis, Information Structure by Brown and Yule (1983), Nunan (1993) and generic structure of acknowledgement by Hyland (2004) and Al-Ali (2006).

## **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the research background of the study, the problems in this research are as follows:

1. What are the similarities and differences of the Reflecting Move expressed in Indonesian and English undergraduate thesis acknowledgement?
2. What are the similarities and differences of the Thanking Move(s) expressed in Indonesian and English undergraduate thesis acknowledgement?
3. What are the similarities and differences of the Announcing Move expressed in Indonesian and English undergraduate thesis acknowledgement?

#### **D. Objective of The Study**

In conducting the research, every researcher should have a certain objective of the study. In this study, the writer intends:

1. To analyze the similarities and differences of the Reflecting Move expressed in Indonesian and English undergraduate thesis acknowledgement.
2. To analyze similarities and differences of the Thanking Move(s) expressed in Indonesian and English undergraduate thesis acknowledgement.
3. To analyze the similarities and differences of the Announcing Move expressed in Indonesian and English undergraduate thesis acknowledgement.

## **E. Benefit of The Study**

The benefit of this study are classified into two, they are:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

This research will give contribution to development of discourse study. Besides this research will give more emphasis on giving new information of discourse analysis toward generic structure of acknowledgement used in undergraduate thesis.

### **2. Practical Benefit**

The elaboration of this research could be used by the other researcher to conduct a study of the same topic but in the different perspective. The result of the research becomes one of the references in improving the students' knowledge in writing acknowledgement.

## **F. Research Paper Organization**

The outline of the research paper is arranged systematically. This research paper organization consists of five chapters and it is divided into further divisions. The research paper arranged as follows:

Chapter I is Introduction. It consists of the Background of The Study, Scope of The Study, Problem Statement, Objective of The Study, Benefit of The Study, and Research Paper Organization.

Chapter II is the Previous Study and Underlying Theory. It deals with the notion of discourse analysis, function of language, text, context and discourse, information structure, acknowledgement, and the generic structure of acknowledgement.

Chapter III is Research Method. In this chapter, the researcher presents the type of research, object of research, data and data source, method of collecting data, and method of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is Analysis, Research Findings and Discussion. It presents the analysis of the elements toward gratitude acknowledgement.

Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion.